

REMARKS

We have amended the claims to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. We have also added new claims 31-34. After entering the amendments, claims 1-3, 7-16, 20-22, and 27-34 will be pending in this application.

The Examiner rejected independent claims 1 and 20, and dependent claims 2-5, 7-18, 21-24, 26-30 under 35 U.S.C §102(e) as being anticipated by Lang (U.S. 6,295,492). He also rejected claims 6, 19, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as obvious over Lang in view of Shetty (U.S. 5,808,907).

We note, however, that Lang fails to teach or suggest a number of features of the independent claims. For example, Lang does not involve "processing the data with the host computer system to generate diagnostic or location information that is derived from the numerical diagnostic or location data," as is essentially required by claims 1, 20 and 34. Instead, Lang simply provides a system that collects and wirelessly transmits vehicle-generated data and then displays these same data on an interface.

Lang also fails to teach or suggest displaying "derived diagnostic or location information" on a web site that implements a first web interface dedicated to presenting information about a specific vehicle and a second web interface for displaying information about a group of vehicles, including the specific vehicle. In fact, Lang, with reference to Fig. 2, actually teaches away from this idea, describing how his 'information for all of the motor vehicles controlled by the operation may be conveniently present on one monitor interface' (col. 3, lines 9-12; emphasis added). And even then, Lang, as described above, fails to describe the display of processed data on his interface; Fig. 2 of the patent simply shows an interface featuring raw, unprocessed data.

Lang also does not teach or suggest "transmitting an email or electronic message communicating information about the derived diagnostic or location data," as recited in claims 1 and 34.

The Examiner's secondary reference, Shetty, fails to cure Lang's deficiencies. Shetty lacks any description of an internet-based web site, and is completely silent to any interface that features both first and second components corresponding to, respectively, individual and groups

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of vehicles. Shetty also fails to describe the processes of retrieving, transmitting, processing, or displaying location-based data, as specified in the claimed invention.

With regard to new independent claims 32, both Lang and Shetty fail to describe a method wherein location-based data are displayed on "a first web interface having a first login and dedicated to presenting information about said vehicle, and a second web interface having a second login and presenting information about a group of vehicles including said vehicle." And with regard to claim 33, Land makes no reference to a terrestrial GPS system. Indeed, Lang teaches away from this concept by describing a GPS system 'based on a constellation of twenty-four satellites orbiting the Earth at altitudes of approximately 11,000 miles' (col. 3, lines 50-52).

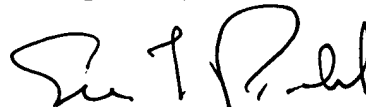
For the reasons stated above, we believe that the claims are allowable and therefore ask the Examiner to allow them to issue.

Attached is a marked-up version of the changes being made by the current amendment.

Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version with markings to show changes made

In the claims:

Claims 1 and 3-27 have been amended as follows:

--1. (Amended) A method for monitoring a vehicle, said method comprising [the steps of]:

i) [generating] retrieving [a] data [packet] from the vehicle using a wireless appliance, the data [packet] comprising numerical diagnostic or location-based data [from a computer in the vehicle];

ii) transmitting the data [packet] over an airlink with the wireless appliance so that the data [packet] pass[es] through a network and to a host computer system;

iii) processing the data [packet] with the host computer system to generate diagnostic or location information that is derived from the numerical diagnostic or location-based data; [and]

iv) displaying the derived [numerical] diagnostic or location information [data] on a web site hosted on the internet, the web site [comprising a series of pages] implementing a first web interface dedicated to presenting information about said [corresponding to individual] vehicle[s] and a [series of pages corresponding to] second web interface for displaying information about a group of vehicles including said vehicle, and

v) transmitting an email or electronic message communicating information about the derived diagnostic or location information.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein [the] said processing [step] further includes extracting at least one of the following vehicle parameters from the data [packet]: numerical data, an alphanumeric text message, an active or pending diagnostic trouble code, a vehicle identification number, a GPS-determined location.

3. (Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the transmitted data contains one or more vehicle parameters and wherein the processing [step] further includes processing at least one of the vehicle parameters with a database software.

Cancel claims 4, 5, and 6, without prejudice.

7. (Amended) The method of claim [4] 1, wherein the [vehicle parameter is an active or pending diagnostic trouble code, and the alphanumeric text] email or electronic message describes [the] an active or pending diagnostic trouble code.

8. (Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the [alphanumeric text] email or electronic message comprises a 5, 6, or 7-digit code that describes the active or pending diagnostic trouble code.

9. (Amended) The method of claim [4] 1, wherein the numerical diagnostic data generated by the vehicle comprises one of the following: numerical data generated by a sensor in the vehicle, numerical data generated by a computer within the vehicle.

10. (Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the numerical diagnostic data includes at least one of the following numerical parameters: diagnostic trouble codes, vehicle speed, fuel level, fuel pressure, miles per gallon, engine RPM, mileage, oil pressure, oil temperature, tire pressure, tire temperature, engine coolant temperature, intake-manifold pressure, engine-performance tuning parameters, alarm status, accelerometer status, cruise-control status, fuel injector performance, spark-plug timing, and a status of an anti-lock braking system.

11. (Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the processing [step] further comprises processing at least one numerical parameter from the numerical data with a mathematical algorithm.

12. (Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the processing [step] further comprises comparing at least one numerical parameter with at least one numerical parameter generated at an earlier point in time.

13. (Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the displaying [step] further comprises displaying at least one numerical parameter and at least one numerical parameter generated at an earlier point in time.

14. (Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the processing [step] further comprises comparing at least one numerical parameter with at least one predetermined numerical value.

15. (Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the displaying [step] further comprises displaying at least one numerical parameter and at least one predetermined numerical value.

16. (Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the at least one predetermined numerical value comprises a mileage value.

Cancel claims 17, 18, and 19, without prejudice.

20. (Amended) A method for monitoring a set of vehicles, comprising the steps of:

i) generating a first data packet from a first vehicle in the set of vehicles using a first wireless appliance disposed in the first vehicle, the first data packet comprising numerical diagnostic or location-based data [from a computer in the first vehicle];

ii) transmitting the first data packet over an airlink with the first wireless appliance so that the first data packet passes through a network and to a host computer system;

iii) generating a second data packet from a second vehicle in the set of vehicles using a second wireless appliance disposed in the second vehicle, the second data packet comprising numerical diagnostic or location-based data [from a computer in the second vehicle];

iv) transmitting the second data packet over an airlink with the wireless appliance so that the second data packet passes through the network and to the host computer system;

v) processing the first and second data packets with the host computer system to generate for each of the first and second vehicles diagnostic or location information that is derived from the numerical diagnostic or location data [corresponding to] from a corresponding one of the first and second vehicles;

vi) displaying the derived [numerical] diagnostic or location information for [data corresponding to] the first vehicle on a first [series of] web interface [pages] hosted on the internet; [and]

vii) displaying the derived [numerical] diagnostic or location information for both [data corresponding to] the first and second vehicles on a second [series of] web interface [pages] hosted on the internet, the first and second [series of] web interfaces being different interfaces and being hosted [pages being comprised] by a single web site; and

viii) transmitting an email describing the derived diagnostic or location information.

21. (Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein [the] said processing [step] further includes extracting at least one of the following vehicle parameters from the first and second data packets: numerical data, an alphanumeric text message, an active or pending diagnostic trouble code, a vehicle identification number, a GPS-determined location.

22. (Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the processing [step] further includes processing at least one of the vehicle parameters with a database software.

Cancel claims 23-26, without prejudice.

27. (Amended) The method of claim [26] 20, wherein the web site comprises a login web page that comprises fields for entering a user name and a password.